



# Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 27 April 2007

Current  
Nationwide  
Threat Level is

**ELEVATED**  
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF  
TERRORIST ATTACKS

[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)

<http://www.dhs.gov/>

## Daily Highlights

- Government Technology reports Texas Governor Rick Perry has announced the reduction of crime by 30 percent in the El Paso area during a recent border security operation known as Operation Wrangler III. (See item [16](#))
- University of California scientists have identified likely suspects in the massive die-off of bee colonies in the U.S., including a parasite called *Nosema ceranae* that has been associated with affecting Asian bees. (See item [20](#))
- Computer World reports a reverse 911 notification system will be deployed to some 17,500 households to notify residents of impending flooding if an emergency occurs during a \$309 million rebuilding project under way at the Wolf Creek Dam on the Cumberland River in southern Kentucky. (See item [32](#))

## DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report *Fast Jump*

**Production Industries:** [Energy](#); [Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

**Service Industries:** [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation and Border Security](#); [Postal and Shipping](#)

**Sustenance and Health:** [Agriculture](#); [Food](#); [Water](#); [Public Health](#)

**Federal and State:** [Government](#); [Emergency Services](#)

**IT and Cyber:** [Information Technology and Telecommunications](#); [Internet Alert Dashboard](#)

**Other:** [Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons](#); [General](#); [DHS Daily Report Contact Information](#)

## Energy Sector

**Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED**

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *April 26, Florida Public Service Commission* — **PSC approves plans to further strengthen Florida's electric infrastructure.** The Florida Public Service Commission (PSC) recently approved a proposal by Florida Power & Light (FPL) intended to provide an incentive for local

governments to move overhead power lines underground. FPL requested the change to its operating tariff in order to improve reliability of service and reduce vulnerability to storm damage. Under FPL's previous operating tariff, the company required local governments requesting a conversion project to pay the full cost of moving overhead power lines underground. FPL's revised tariff now credits the sponsoring local government 25 percent of the total expense. The PSC approved the tariff as a limited time pilot project, expiring in October 2008, when more information on storm hardening is filed and additional cost/benefit reviews can be initiated.

Source: <http://www.electricnet.com/content/news/article.asp?DocID={54657213-704B-4004-9B12-FD7110F78D16}&Bucket=Current+Headline s>

2. *April 26, Associated Press* — **Colombia experiences blackout.** A nationwide blackout hit Colombia on Thursday, April 26, with authorities struggling to determine the cause of the electrical grid's collapse. President Alvaro Uribe said that authorities would "know in a few minutes" the cause of the blackout. He said the blackout "appears to have affected the entire country." Luis Alarcon, manager of state-controlled electricity distributor ISA, said that the power outage appears to have begun with an undetermined technical glitch at a substation in Bogota and quickly spread to the rest of the country. He said work crews had re-established power to about 20 percent of the country and hoped to reconnect the capital and other cities in a few hours. There was no indication it was the result of a terrorist attack. Leftist rebels routinely sabotage electric transmission lines as part of their four-decade old campaign to overthrow the government, but such attacks usually have a limited impact.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2007/WORLD/americas/04/26/colombia.blackout.ap/index.html>

3. *April 25, Bloomberg* — **Oil, gasoline prices surge as motor-fuel supply falls to 18-month low.** Crude oil surged more than \$1 a barrel and gasoline jumped to the highest since August after a government report showed that U.S. inventories of the motor fuel fell to the lowest in 18 months. Stockpiles fell 2.79 million barrels to 194.2 million, the lowest since Oct. 7, 2005, when refineries were shut because of hurricanes Katrina and Rita. "The fall in utilization raises a number of questions about the ability of the U.S. refinery system to supply its domestic market," said Eoin O'Callaghan of BNP Paribas. ConocoPhillips, BP Plc and Exxon Mobil Corp. have both unexpectedly shut units at U.S. refineries over the past week. "The system is running at capacity so any blip has an outsized effect," Hodge said. "We want to see gasoline inventories rise but that's not happening because of all of the units that are offline." Belgian oil workers will go on strike May 10 and halt operations at four refineries in Antwerp after the refinery companies failed to meet demands for a higher bonus and more salary. U.S. gasoline imports may fall if the Belgian strike occurs.

Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601087&sid=asHTToZpfONS0&refer=home>

4. *April 25, MarketWatch* — **NRC warns of shortages ahead of nuclear boom.** U.S. senators and top Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) officials are worried that staff and manufacturing capacity shortages ahead of a forecast boom in new nuclear power plants may cause delays in project approval and construction. The NRC is expecting at least 17 applications for new nuclear power plants during the next two years, but faces losing up to 200 employees to retirement in the same period. Limited nuclear plant parts manufacturing capacity globally could put a severe bottleneck on a U.S. and worldwide nuclear renaissance, NRC

commissioners told a Senate subcommittee on nuclear safety Wednesday, April 25. NRC Chairman Dale Klein said the agency needed to hire up to 400 employees just to have a net increase of 200. Commissioner Edward McGaffigan Jr. offered what he called a cautionary note on the timeline of the processing of plant applications. He said that during the NRC's last major round of new nuclear power plant commissioning, almost a quarter of a century ago, the commission "was stable...but it's highly unstable now, especially given that we're losing a lot of senior staff."

Source: <http://www.marketwatch.com/news/story/us-nrc-warns-shortages-ahead/story.aspx?guid=%7B9D17BD9E-B364-4C1B-A23C-6DE663683DAB%7D>

5. *April 25, Canadian Press* — **Ontario updates mine safety rules for explosives, training, vehicles.** Ontario's labor minister has announced measures aimed improving the health and safety of mine workers, changes industry leaders say bolster the province's track record as one of the safest mining jurisdictions in the world. The changes, which would update requirements for training, vehicle and elevator safety and the handling and storage of explosives, come as Ontario mining companies report a lost-time injury rate of less than one per cent of workers per year, down from 19 per cent 30 years ago. The changes include: Raising standards for training, reflecting the latest programs offered to the industry; addressing brake systems for vehicles used in underground mines; updating standards for overhead protective devices to shield vehicle operators from falling objects; requiring all explosives be noted on a plan at the mine and kept up to date; updating electrical safety requirements for explosive storage areas; requiring motor vehicles or trains underground display a flashing red light whenever explosives are being transported; and introducing new requirements for bulk explosives vehicles, requiring the provision of fire suppression systems, designated parking places, and the use of power washing to reduce risk of fire.

Source: [http://www.brandonsun.com/story.php?story\\_id=51470](http://www.brandonsun.com/story.php?story_id=51470)

6. *April 25, Department of Energy* — **U.S. and Japan sign joint Nuclear Energy Action Plan to promote nuclear energy cooperation.** Department of Energy (DOE) Secretary Samuel W. Bodman and Japan's Ministers Akira Amari, Bunmei Ibuki, and Taro Aso, this week presented the United States-Japan Joint Nuclear Energy Action Plan. The Action Plan provides a framework for increased collaboration in nuclear energy and will contribute to increasing energy security and managing nuclear waste, addressing nuclear nonproliferation and climate change, and advancing goals put forth in President Bush's Global Nuclear Energy Partnership (GNEP) initiative. Secretary Bodman said: "Not only can nuclear energy serve as a cornerstone of sustainable economic development, but as a reliable, viable and emissions-free source of power, it offers enormous potential to help meet the world's increasing demand for energy in a safe and proliferation-resistant manner." Signed on April 18, 2007, the Action Plan establishes the necessary framework to coordinate activities designed to promote the expansion of safe and secure nuclear power, in our respective countries, and globally. It also formalizes an agreement between the two nations to support the construction of new nuclear power plants; establish a nuclear fuel supply assurance mechanism; and support the safe and secure expansion of nuclear energy in interested countries while promoting non-proliferation.

Joint Nuclear Energy Action Plan:

[http://www.energy.gov/media/US-Japan\\_NuclearEnergyActionPlan.pdf](http://www.energy.gov/media/US-Japan_NuclearEnergyActionPlan.pdf)

Source: <http://www.energy.gov/news/4991.htm>

## **Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector**

Nothing to report.

## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

7. *April 26, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO-07-688R: Defense Budget: Review of DoD's Report on Budgeting for Fuel Cost Fluctuations (Correspondence).** Concerned as to whether the Department of Defense's (DoD) method for setting fuel prices has produced realistic budget estimates, last year the Congress required DoD to consider alternative methods. Specifically, the John Warner National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007 requires the Secretary of Defense to submit a report on the fuel rate and cost projection used in the annual DoD budget presentation. In response to the act, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) determined (1) the extent to which DoD identified and evaluated alternative crude oil forecasts that could be used in setting its fuel rates — such as forecasts used by other federal departments and agencies and private economic forecasting organizations, and (2) DoD's basis for selecting its preferred fuel rate setting approach.  
Source: <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-07-688R>

8. *April 25, U.S. Air Force* — **General provides clarification on UAV use.** Recent discussion in hearings on Capital Hill, and elsewhere on an executive agency proposal to achieve greater efficiency in unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) procurement is being confused with joint operational employment of those UAVs. "These are two related, but distinctly separate issues," said Lt. Gen. David A. Deptula, the Air Force Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR). The discussion has also illuminated a fundamental misunderstanding of Service roles and missions. "UAV capability is not an extension of the ground force, it is an extension of the Joint force; the Air Force provides the expertise in the aerial domain, as the ground forces do on land," said Deptula. He also stated that the Air Force agrees that demand for UAVs exceeds supply and will continue to exceed it. "This only reinforces the notion that the best possible way to get ISR from these limited UAVs to our joint warriors on the ground is to allocate them as directed by the Joint Force Commander," said Deptula.  
Source: <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123050533>

## **Banking and Finance Sector**

9. *April 26, Washington Post* — **Federal workers owe billions in back taxes.** More than 450,000 federal workers and retirees owe a total of \$3 billion in back taxes, prompting the top Democrat and Republican on the Senate Finance Committee to urge President Bush to put more effort into collecting from delinquent government employees. "If the federal government doesn't make its own employees follow the rules, it's hard to tell the rest of the American people that they should

do better," committee Chairman Max Baucus (D-MT) said in a statement accompanying the delinquency figures. The senators sent the letter as Congress and the White House grapple with how to close the \$345 billion tax gap, the estimate of what taxpayers owe but have not paid. The latest information the Internal Revenue Service gave the senators says that as of October 2005, about a third of the 450,000 had agreements with the IRS to pay, in installments, about \$1 billion in delinquent taxes. The rest — about 3.28 percent of the nation's more than nine million federal workers and retirees — owed \$2.07 billion, though some of the workers included in this group were in bankruptcy, on active military duty or trying to reach payment agreements.

Source: [http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/04/25/AR2007042502820\\_pf.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/04/25/AR2007042502820_pf.html)

10. *April 26, Websense Security Labs* — **Phishing Alert: St. George Bank.** Websense Security Labs has received reports of a phishing attack that targets customers of St. George Bank. Users receive a spoofed email message requesting that they review their account details as part of a security update. The email provides a link to a phishing site which attempts to collect personal and account information.

Source: <http://www.websense.com/securitylabs/alerts/>

11. *April 26, InfoWorld* — **Standard for secure mobile phone payments is on the way.** The mobile phone industry has moved forward in its efforts to agree to a global standard for delivering secure services such as credit-card payments on handheld devices, according to an industry executive. "There's momentum," said Nav Bains, projects director at the GSM Association (GSMA). "Everyone wants to move ahead." Debate has been raging in the industry about where to locate the "secure element," or system for storing private data, in phones equipped with near field communications (NFC) technology. NFC enables any two devices to connect and exchange information or access content and services simply by bringing them together over a distance of a few centimeters. The GSMA is pushing for the Universal Integrated Circuit Card (UICC) to become the standardized component for storing sensitive data in NFC-equipped mobile phones. The other options include programming the secure element in software, embedding it in the phone or putting it on a secure digital (SD) card.

Source: [http://www.infoworld.com/article/07/04/26/HNmobilepaymentstandard\\_1.html](http://www.infoworld.com/article/07/04/26/HNmobilepaymentstandard_1.html)

[[Return to top](#)]

## **Transportation and Border Security Sector**

12. *April 26, Congress Daily* — **DHS: Technology gaps slowing port security efforts.**

Department of Homeland Security (DHS) officials — Coast Guard Adm. Craig Bone, Customs and Border Protection Assistant Commissioner Jayson Ahern and Maurine Fanguy, the Transportation Worker Identification Credential program director — told lawmakers Thursday, April 26, that it can carry out most provisions of a new maritime security law, but that it lacks the technology to comply with such congressional requirements as having card readers for new worker identification credentials. Until a capable card reader can be developed, ID cards will have to be checked the old fashioned way by eyeballing ID photos to make sure they match the cardholders. In joint testimony prepared for a House Homeland Security Border Subcommittee hearing, three officials say such technology gaps prevent full compliance with the SAFE Port Act, which was signed into law six months ago. The department will also scan 98 percent of all



cargo for radioactive materials at the nation's top 22 seaports by the end of 2007, the officials say. The new law requires 100 percent of the cargo to be scanned at these ports. The department is also required to deploy "next-generation radiation detection technology" at these ports. But that technology, known as advanced spectroscopic portals, is still being tested, the officials say. Source: [http://www.govexec.com/story\\_page.cfm?articleid=36724&dcn=to daysnews](http://www.govexec.com/story_page.cfm?articleid=36724&dcn=to%20daysnews)

13. *April 26, Associated Press* — **Delta to exit bankruptcy next week.** Delta Air Lines is exiting bankruptcy on April 30, and re-entering an increasingly competitive market in which its success depends on operating with a lean labor force and expanding its international flights. The newly restructured airline was under Chapter 11 protection for almost two years and cut 6,000 jobs and \$3 billion in annual costs. On Wednesday, April 25, it received approval from U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Adlai Hardin to emerge from bankruptcy as an independent company. Airline industry analyst Robert Mann said Delta was not likely to try to combine with another carrier in the near term. Industry watchers have speculated that Delta might join with Northwest Airlines Corp., which filed for bankruptcy the same day Delta did. He said Delta's success depends on its ability to grow its international routes, and its expansion was by no means guaranteed. The international air travel marketplace is increasingly competitive, especially given the possibility of more competition on routes across the Atlantic and to China. Now that it is leaving court protection, Delta may sell off its regional carrier subsidiary, Erlanger, KY-based Comair, which has received poor marks for lost baggage and flight delays. Source: [http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/070426/delta\\_bankruptcy.html?.v=5](http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/070426/delta_bankruptcy.html?.v=5)

14. *April 26, Reuters* — **US Airways to increase airport check-in services.** US Airways, which has experienced problems in combining its reservation system with another airline it merged with, said Thursday, April 26, it plans to put 1,000 workers in airports this summer to help passengers get on flights. The airline said it has begun an "aggressive hiring plan" and would bring in 600 new self-service check-in machines, with first deliveries in May. In March, thousands of US Airways passengers were forced to wait for hours at its Charlotte, NC, hub after a glitch in its system. The airline has had problems blending reservations systems with America West, with which it merged in 2005. Source: [http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2007-04-26-us-airways-check-in\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2007-04-26-us-airways-check-in_N.htm)

15. *April 26, Associated Press* — **NWA, flight attendants make a deal.** Flight attendants at Northwest Airlines Corp. (NWA) tentatively settled on pay cuts on Thursday, April 26, salvaging a potential \$182 million share of the airline's reorganization in exchange for the millions more they have given up. The deal requires approval by rank-and-file flight attendants, who voted down tentative agreements twice last year. Northwest, with a judge's permission, imposed the changes under the first rejected agreement last summer. Other unions agreed to pay cuts as Northwest reorganized under bankruptcy protection, and pilots and ground workers received claims that they have been cashing in for 80 cents on the dollar or more. But the terms imposed on flight attendants did not include a bankruptcy claim. Source: [http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/070426/northwest\\_flight\\_attendants.html?.v=6](http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/070426/northwest_flight_attendants.html?.v=6)

16. *April 26, Government Technology* — **Texas border security surge operations' continued success.** Texas Governor Rick Perry announced the reduction of crime by 30 percent in the El Paso area during a recent border security operation known as Operation Wrangler III. Operation Wrangler III was a high-intensity surge operation that lasted 30 days in the El Paso border

region. Perry said, "When criminal organizations are forced to shut down their smuggling activities, our communities are safer, and the quality of life improves for all Texans." As in previous state-led surge operations, the objective of Operation Wrangler III was to shut down organized smuggling activity between the Ports of Entry to prevent the illegal crossing of drugs, contraband and people into Texas. Local sheriffs' offices and police departments worked side-by-side with their state and federal partners in three Texas counties (El Paso, Hudspeth, and Culberson counties) and two New Mexico counties (Dona Ana and Luna counties) to deny Mexican criminal organizations and transnational gangs entry into the U.S. A key benefit of securing the border is crime reduction.

Source: [http://www.govtech.net/magazine/channel\\_story.php/105183](http://www.govtech.net/magazine/channel_story.php/105183)

17. *April 25, Associated Press* — **Frontier Airlines to resume Louisiana service.** Frontier Airlines said Wednesday, April 25, it will begin non-stop service to Baton Rouge, nearly two years after Hurricane Katrina forced the carrier to cancel its only Louisiana flights. The Denver-based carrier said two daily round-trip flights will travel between Denver International Airport and Baton Rouge Metropolitan Airport beginning August 15. Frontier Airlines Holdings Inc., which operates a hub at the Denver airport, canceled its New Orleans service in the fall of 2005 because of hurricane damage and began looking for alternate cities to serve in Louisiana.

Source: [http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2007-04-25-frontier-baton-rouge\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2007-04-25-frontier-baton-rouge_N.htm)

18. *April 25, Associated Press* — **Government to fill seven tunnels on U.S.-Mexico border.** U.S. authorities plan to fill seven cross-border tunnels to keep smugglers from reopening them. The tunnels, six in California and one in Arizona, have already been sealed off but authorities believe smugglers could dig new entrances and access hollow sections of the passageways, some of which stretch hundreds of feet. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement spokesperson Lauren Mack called the tunnels "a vulnerability to the security of our border." The tunnels were typically used to smuggle people and drugs into the United States from Mexico. The tunnels will be filled with mix of asphalt emulsion and crushed aggregate to fill the tunnels. Work is expected to begin in May at a cost of about \$2.7 million. One of the tunnels, discovered in January 2006 near the Otay Mesa Port of Entry in San Diego, is 2,400 feet long and featured an 85-foot-deep shaft equipped with a pulley system.

Source: <http://ktar.com/?nid=6&sid=461470>

[[Return to top](#)]

## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

19. *April 24, KSL (UT)* — **Security causing major postal delays to Congress.** Special security measures are still causing major postal delays more than five years after a mysterious murderer sent anthrax germs to Congress. For example, if a letter is addressed to a lawmaker in Washington, it could take two or three weeks or even a couple of months to arrive. Some staff have suggested that constituents e-mail or fax or even call. Security workers open every letter and package, shaking out any powders and testing for germs. Mail officials claim it all takes less than two weeks. But congressional staffers say it's lucky if it's less than three weeks. In spite of the hassles, there's no major move afoot to make changes. Each year House and Senate members receive something like 20 million pieces of mail in their Washington offices. It shows

that many Americans consider the mail a vital link to their voice in Washington, but it also shows just how big the security problem is.

Source: <http://www.ksl.com/?nid=148&sid=1143878>

[[Return to top](#)]

## **Agriculture Sector**

20. *April 25, University of California, San Francisco* — **Researchers identify suspects in mystery of vanishing honeybees.** University of California, San Francisco scientists have identified two likely suspects in the massive die-off of half a million bee colonies in the U.S. Joe DeRisi and Don Ganem have used a powerful combination of a "virus chip" — a microarray with DNA samples of most known viruses and fungi — and "shotgun" sequencing, which identifies telltale DNA from random samples of the biological sample. The U.S. Army's Edgewood Chemical Biological Center at the Aberdeen Proving Ground in Maryland sent DeRisi samples to analyze from bees in the Central Valley of California. DeRisi and Ganem identified a parasite known to have caused massive bee losses in the last decade in Asia and Europe, making it a strong candidate as a culprit responsible for bee collapse in the U.S. The parasite is called *Nosema ceranae*, a so-called microsporidian fungus — a small, single-celled parasite that mainly has been associated with affecting Asian bees, and is thought to have jumped to the Western honeybee in the last few years. The shotgun approach succeeded in this search, as the microarray does not include this species' DNA.  
Source: <http://pub.ucsf.edu/today/cache/feature/200704251.html>

21. *April 25, Lexington Herald-Leader (KY)* — **Hundreds of foreign horses face quarantine on arrival for Equestrian Games.** One barn is usually enough to hold all the foreign horses coming to Lexington to compete in the annual Rolex Kentucky Three-Day Event. But it will be a different story in 2010 when international competitors in eight disciplines arrive for the Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games. More than 900 horses will come to the Bluegrass, and all those coming from a foreign country — the majority — will have to go through quarantine. To handle what Jack Kelly, CEO of the World Games 2010 Foundation, said a temporary quarantine facility will be set up inside Kentucky, probably someplace that already has a lot of stalls, such as a racetrack or training center. Horses flying in from all over the world will have to be checked out by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). Horses from most European countries, Japan, Hong Kong, Australia and New Zealand will require a three-day quarantine. Horses from South American countries where Venezuelan equine encephalitis and/or screw-worm exist require a seven-day quarantine; horses from African and some Arab countries where a disease called African horsesickness exists will require a 60-day quarantine.  
Source: <http://www.kentucky.com/181/story/53086.html>

[[Return to top](#)]

## **Food Sector**

22. *April 26, Agricultural Research Service* — **Fungus responsible for Africa's deadly maize identified.** It's now clear that a poisonous strain of the fungus *Aspergillus flavus*, known as the



"S" strain, is to blame for causing 125 food–related deaths in Kenya in 2004, according to research by an Agricultural Research Service (ARS) plant pathologist and his colleagues. The fungus, which produces invisible toxins that are known to be carcinogenic, had contaminated portions of the country's maize crop. This is the third time since 1981 that the so–called "Kenyan death fungus" has tainted the African nation's primary food staple with deadly levels of poisons. The scientists' findings will be critical to researchers who are trying to devise methods for preventing future cases of fungal poisoning, or aflatoxicosis, in African maize. Aflatoxins are natural poisons produced by certain fungi that belong to the genus *Aspergillus*. Health consequences related to consuming aflatoxin–contaminated foods include impaired growth, cancer and death. These toxins can contaminate an array of crops including corn, cottonseed, peanuts and tree nuts.

Source: <http://www.ars.usda.gov/News/docs.htm?docid=1261>

- 23. April 25, *IndyChannel* — Door–to–door cheese sale sickens at least one.** At least one person became seriously ill after eating cheese that was sold door–to–door on Indianapolis, IN's west side recently, the Marion County Health Department said. The health department said it became aware Tuesday, April 24, that someone sold unpasteurized soft white cheese in the area. Officials are worried that others might buy the product. The cheese was contaminated with listeria. The bacteria can become dangerous when it grows on raw foods. Symptoms of listeria infection can be as mild as nausea, but at its worst, the bacteria can cause a pregnant woman to lose her child. Experts said that it takes at least three weeks before someone who eats something contaminated with listeria to notice symptoms.

Source: <http://www.theindychannel.com/news/13091454/detail.html>

[[Return to top](#)]

## **Water Sector**

Nothing to report.

[[Return to top](#)]

## **Public Health Sector**

- 24. April 26, *Reuters* — Tamiflu capacity outstrips demand.** Roche said on Thursday, April 26, it was cutting production of influenza drug Tamiflu, seen as one of the best defenses against a possible bird flu pandemic, because supply now exceeds demand. The pharmaceutical group said it had increased capacity to more than 400 million treatments a year and that supply now significantly outstrips orders with signs of slowing sales to governments wanting to prepare for any outbreak. The cutback would not affect Roche's expectations for sales of Tamiflu for stockpiling. The World Health Organization (WHO) and some countries have been stockpiling the drug in case the H5N1 bird flu strain, now mainly affecting poultry, mutates and begins to spread quickly among humans. Roche will maintain its stock of intermediates and active pharmaceutical ingredients, so it would be ready to gear up to full production capacity if needed.

Source: <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/L26435875.htm>

25. *April 26, Reuters* — **China says needs more funds, aid in bird flu fight.** China needs more money and more help to improve its health services to fight bird flu, an official said on Thursday, April 26. China has the world's largest human population and largest domestic bird population, which presents a unique risk, said Li Jianguo, deputy director-general of the health ministry's centre for public health emergencies. "The crucial area in the fight against bird flu is in the countryside. Grass roots' medical facilities and people's knowledge about bird flu are quite weak," he said. "China is a developing country. Although the government has invested a lot of money in the fight against bird flu and pays it great attention, we need more money and technical aid to raise preparedness, especially at the grass roots," Li said.  
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/homepageCrisis/idUSPEK156371>. CH .2400
26. *April 25, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* — **Manufacturer of unapproved and adulterated drugs agrees to stop illegal practices.** The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced the entry of a Consent Decree of Permanent Injunction against PharmaFab Inc., its subsidiary, Pfab LP, and two company officials, Mark Tengler, PharmaFab's president, and Russ McMahan, Pfab's vice president of scientific affairs, to stop the illegal manufacture and distribution of prescription and over-the-counter drug products. The products are illegal because they are not produced according to the required current good manufacturing practice (CGMP) and many also lack required FDA approval. The case was filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas. PharmaFab is a major contract manufacturer and distributor of more than 100 different prescription and over-the-counter drug products, including cough and cold products, ulcer treatments, and postpartum hemorrhage products. Consumers who have products manufactured by PharmaFab should consult with their physician. The consent decree requires the defendants to destroy certain illegal drugs, and bars them from distributing all drugs until they obtain required FDA approval and fully comply with CGMP. If they resume distributing drugs, the defendants are required to retain an auditor to conduct inspections of their facilities for a period of five years and to provide reports to FDA analyzing compliance with CGMP and labeling requirements.  
Source: <http://www.fda.gov/bbs/topics/NEWS/2007/NEW01617.html>
27. *April 24, Cape Times (South Africa)* — **Another XDR-TB case reported in the Western Cape.** The number of patients needing treatment for extreme drug resistant tuberculosis (XDR-TB) in the Western Cape, South Africa, has risen from 21 to 22 as of Monday, April 23, on top of three deaths in the past month. An 18th patient was admitted to the XDR-TB isolation unit at Brooklyn Chest TB Hospital in Milnerton on Monday, the only unit of its kind in the Western Cape, provincial health department spokesperson Miranda Anthony said. Six men and 12 women are being treated at the hospital. Four other patients are being treated for XDR-TB in special isolation hospital wards at three prisons in the province, Anthony said. Three women, aged 23, 26 and 43, have died in the past month at Brooklyn Chest TB Hospital after brief illnesses. In February, the department of health said 269 cases were reported in South Africa since 2005. The first 60 cases were reported in KwaZulu-Natal. In total, 184 people died. The latest statistics are not yet available.  
XDR-TB information: <http://www.cdc.gov/tb/XDRTB/default.htm>  
Source: [http://www.int.iol.co.za/index.php?set\\_id=1&click\\_id=125&art\\_id=vn20070424013135854C804288](http://www.int.iol.co.za/index.php?set_id=1&click_id=125&art_id=vn20070424013135854C804288)

## **Government Sector**

28. *April 26, Associated Press* — **Loaded gun found in Colorado Springs middle school.** A 13-year-old boy was arrested Wednesday, April 25, after officials found a loaded handgun at North Middle School in Colorado Springs, officials said. A security officer found the .380-caliber semiautomatic handgun in the boy's locker, took him to the office and police were called, Colorado Springs School District 11 spokesperson Elaine Naleski said. Several school threats across Colorado have been reported in the week following the shootings at Virginia Tech and the eighth anniversary of the deaths at Columbine High School. On Monday, Adams County sheriff's officials announced they arrested two 14-year-old boys on charges of threatening a "large-scale shooting" at Ranum High School north of Denver. Both boys were arrested at Clear Lake Middle School, where they attended school. In a separate case, a judge set bail Tuesday at \$25,000 for a 17-year-old suspected of setting off a small explosion outside a high school south of Denver on Friday, the eighth anniversary of the Columbine shootings. Source: [http://www.denverpost.com/ci\\_5756202](http://www.denverpost.com/ci_5756202)
29. *April 26, WUSA (DC)* — **Students fear going to school after Virginia Tech-like threat.** Ever since the shooting spree at Virginia Tech, fear of copy-cat crimes have schools on edge across the country. Since last week, several bomb threats have rattled nerves at schools in Prince William County, VA. Now a scary message left in a school bathroom last Friday, April 20, at Freedom High School in Woodbridge, VA. It made reference to the Virginia Tech massacre. After investigating, school officials do not believe the threat is credible. But nevertheless, some students appear to be scared, so scared they don't want to go to school on Thursday, April 26. The latest threat, comes days after two bomb threats were called into two separate schools. Source: [http://www.wusa9.com/news/news\\_article.aspx?storyid=57983](http://www.wusa9.com/news/news_article.aspx?storyid=57983)

[[Return to top](#)]

## **Emergency Services Sector**

30. *April 25, Shelbyville Times-Gazette (TN)* — **Tennessee disaster drill simulates terrorist attack.** A mock explosion on the grounds of the Celebration, a 100-plus acre equestrian complex in Shelbyville, TN, released an unknown chemical/biological agent Tuesday, April 24, killing and injuring scores, while other victims awaited decontamination. While this wasn't an actual emergency, responders from seven counties converged for an emergency preparedness exercise to evaluate how they would react in a real-life mass casualty situation. A total of 47 agencies were active participants with more than 300 volunteers from area high schools portraying victims. Smoke devices were used to simulate the incident and the first on the scene were Shelbyville firefighters, who evaluated "the situation" and determined the course of action. One thing that is noticed is that first responders don't rush to the scene if there is a hazardous substance involved. One organizer stated that a fire department could lose all its first responders if the situation isn't properly identified as dangerous. Mike Zelnik, chief of Exercise and Continuing Education for the state's Office of Homeland Security says it didn't matter what the bio-agent being "used" is because responders have to be ready to deal with any situation. The "agent" used during Tuesday's test was anthrax.

Source: <http://www.t-g.com/story/1200733.html>

31. *April 25, United States Air Force* — **Security forces join SWAT training exercise.** Airmen and civilians from the 355th Security Forces Squadron trained with members of the Tucson, AZ, Police Department (TPD), Sahuarita Police Department and University of Arizona Police Department in an exercise on April 19. The exercise was administered and supervised by TPD special weapons and tactics (SWAT) team trainers who taught the participants how to handle a scenario in which an armed suspect enters the school and begins shooting at innocent people. After the shootings at Columbine High School in Colorado, the TPD SWAT team began creating a new training program for first responders in a similar situation. Sergeant David Azuelo, a TPD SWAT team member and one of the developers of the program, said that the Columbine shootings revealed a flaw in police procedures. In the past, the first officers on the scene were trained to stand by and wait for the SWAT team. Now, first responders are taught to do exactly the opposite. "What we try to press on (the trainees) is: How many people can die in 10 seconds?" Sergeant Azuelo said. "We essentially teach our officers to do whatever it takes to get to the bad guy and stop him from killing innocent people."

Source: <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123050375>

32. *April 24, Computer World* — **Reverse 911 system to warn residents of flooding from Kentucky dam project.** A reverse 911 notification system has been deployed to some 17,500 households to notify residents of impending flooding if an emergency occurs during a \$309 million rebuilding project under way at the Wolf Creek Dam on the Cumberland River in southern Kentucky. In the event of an emergency, residents would get automated calls explaining what they should do to get out of harm's way. The seven-year reconstruction project, being done by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, is designed to repair seepage problems at the dam, which was completed in December 1950. The seepage problems were classified recently by a Corps of Engineers survey as serious enough to raise questions about the dam's structure, making it one of several U.S. dams that have the highest risk for failure, said Jason Keller, deputy director of the Kentucky Office for Homeland Security Keller. "If the dam were to breach, there are a lot of communities along the Cumberland River in southern Kentucky that would be affected" and flooded, he said. In addition to the reverse 911 system and telephone and e-mail notifications, residents will be notified of any related emergencies through local radio and television stations and other sources.

Source: [http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=9017727&intsrc=hm\\_list](http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=9017727&intsrc=hm_list)

[[Return to top](#)]

## **Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector**

33. *April 26, CNET News* — **Schneier questions need for security industry.** Outspoken author and security guru Bruce Schneier has questioned the very existence of the security industry, suggesting it merely indicates the willingness of other technology companies to ship insecure software and hardware. Speaking this week at Infosecurity Europe 2007, a leading trade show for the security industry, Schneier said, "the fact this show even exists is a problem. You should not have to come to this show ever." "We shouldn't have to come and find a company to secure our e-mail. E-mail should already be secure. We shouldn't have to buy from somebody to

secure our network or servers. Our networks and servers should already be secure." Schneier, chief technology officer at BT Counterpane, said his own company was bought by BT Group last year because the UK telecommunications giant realized the need for security to be part of any service, not an add-on at additional cost and inconvenience to the user. His words echoed those of Lord Broers, chair of the House of Lords science and technology committee, who suggested every company, from operating system and application vendors to ISPs, needs to take greater responsibility for the security of end users.

Source: [http://news.com.com/Schneier+questions+need+for+security+industry/2100-7355\\_3-6179500.html](http://news.com.com/Schneier+questions+need+for+security+industry/2100-7355_3-6179500.html)

- 34. April 26, CNET News — Exploit code released for Adobe Photoshop flaw.** Exploit code that could take advantage of a "highly critical" security flaw in the most recent versions of Adobe Photoshop has been published, a security researcher reported. The security flaw affects Adobe Photoshop Creative Suite 3, as well as CS2, according to a security advisory issued by Secunia on Wednesday, April 25. The vulnerability concerns the way Adobe Photoshop handles the processing of malicious bitmap files, such as .bmp, .dib, and .rle. A malicious attacker could exploit the flaw with a buffer overflow attack, followed by remotely taking over a user's system. Although a security researcher has published code to demonstrate how to exploit the vulnerability, Secunia has yet to detect any malicious use of the code, said Thomas Kristensen, Secunia's chief technology officer.

Secunia advisory: <http://secunia.com/advisories/25023/>

Source: [http://news.com.com/Exploit+code+released+for+Adobe+Photoshop+flaw/2100-1002\\_3-6179485.html](http://news.com.com/Exploit+code+released+for+Adobe+Photoshop+flaw/2100-1002_3-6179485.html)

- 35. April 26, ComputerWorld — Entrepreneurial hackers buy sponsored links on Google.** A hacker scheme that involved buying search keywords on Google and then routing users to a malicious site when they clicked on sponsored links was revealed Wednesday, April 25, by a security company. According to Roger Thompson, chief technology officer at Exploit Prevention Labs, the play involved sponsored links (the text ads that appear alongside search results on Google), a malicious intermediary and malware that steals online banking usernames and passwords. Those keywords put the criminals' sponsored links at the top of the page when searches were run for brand name sites like the Better Business Bureau or Cars.com, using phrases such as "betterbusinessbureau" or "modern cars airbags required." But when users clicked on the ad link, they were momentarily diverted to smarttrack.org, a malicious site that used an exploit against the Microsoft Data Access Components (MDAC) function in Windows to plant a back door and a "post-logger" on the PC.

Source: [http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=9017862&intsrc=hm\\_list](http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=9017862&intsrc=hm_list)

- 36. April 26, U.S. Computer Emergency Readiness Team — US-CERT Vulnerability Note VU#127545: Cisco NetFlow Collection Engine contains known default passwords.** A vulnerability in the Cisco NetFlow Collection Engine could allow a remote attacker to gain access to a vulnerable system. The Cisco Network Services (CNS) NetFlow Collection Engine (NFC) is a software package for supported UNIX platforms and is used to collect and monitor NetFlow accounting data for network devices such as routers and switches. Versions of NFC prior to 6.0 create and use default accounts with an identical username and password of "nfcuser." A remote attacker with knowledge of the default account information can gain



administrative control of the NFC application configuration through the Web-based interface. For some configurations, the attacker may also be able to gain user access to the host operating system with the privileges of nfcuser. This access may allow for additional privilege escalation attacks on an affected system.

Solution: Change passwords for the affected account. Cisco has published instructions for changing the passwords on the nfcuser account in Cisco Security Advisory cisco-sa-20070425-nfc: <http://www.cisco.com/warp/public/707/cisco-sa-20070425-nfc.shtml>

Source: <http://www.kb.cert.org/vuls/id/127545>

37. *April 25, eWeek* — **Acer joins Sony battery pack recall.** Nine months following those first voluntary recalls of Sony-made notebook battery packs, Acer will recall some 27,000 notebooks that also contained those same lithium-ion batteries. Acer announced the recall Wednesday, April 25. The 27,000 notebooks recalled by Acer were all sold in the United States between May 2004 and November 2006. The models that came with faulty packs included the company's TravelMate notebooks with model numbers 321x, 242x, 330x, 561x, C20x, 422x, 467x and 320x. The recall also involves some models in the company's Aspire line, including the 980x, 556x, 930x, 941x, 560x and 567x.

Source: <http://www.eweek.com/article2/0,1895,2122185,00.asp>

38. *April 25, SecurityFocus* — **Storm Worm marries malware and spam.** The stock-touting e-mail messages regularly sent out by spam-focused bot nets have started to include links to malicious code, according to a report published Wednesday, April 25, by e-mail security firm MessageLabs. The criminal groups responsible for the spam appear to believe that recipients of the e-mail may click on a Web link, even if they don't buy the stock touted by the e-mail message. In the past 10 days, MessageLabs has only detected about 3,500 of the messages, so the spammers may be testing to waters to see how often the scam works, said Mark Sunner, chief technology officer for the company. The Storm Worm, which is actually a Trojan horse that does not spread on its own, embodies the latest tactics by spammers and bot masters to grow their networks. Rather than using worms and viruses to create bot nets that likely grow out of control, the Storm Worm — also known as Zhelatin and Peacomm — is sent out in spam to increase the size of a bot net at a controllable pace.

Source: <http://www.securityfocus.com/brief/489>

### Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [soc@us-cert.gov](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Website: [www.us-cert.gov](http://www.us-cert.gov).

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

[[Return to top](#)]

## **Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons Sector**

39. *April 26, Los Angeles Times* — **South Los Angeles library not safe, educator says.** The

director of a nearby charter school urges more security at the Hyde Park branch after a group of her students reported being attacked. The director of a charter school in South Los Angeles sent the parents of her 340 students a note warning them that Hyde Park—Miriam Matthews Public Library, a few yards from the school campus, was not safe for their children. "Many students have complained about being taunted, harassed and intimidated by some of the other students [from nearby schools] who frequent the library," wrote Mikelle Willis, who also founded KIPP Academy of Opportunity, a charter school specializing in college preparation. Willis said librarians were doing all they could to keep children under control, but "handling the level of disrespect and violence that some children bring to that establishment is beyond their expertise." More security is needed, she said, and she encouraged parents to write letters to Los Angeles Public Library officials expressing their concerns. Last week, two students reported that they were slapped and choked by children from nearby middle schools who boasted of gang affiliations. "The library has become a popular destination because students want to check out MySpace," said Stephanie Sheldon, senior librarian at the Hyde Park branch.

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-library26apr26.0,4178219.story?coll=la-home-headlines>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

## **General Sector**

Nothing to report.

[\[Return to top\]](#)

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To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at [nicc@dhs.gov](mailto:nicc@dhs.gov) or (202) 282-9201.

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [soc@us-cert.gov](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Web page at [www.us-cert.gov](http://www.us-cert.gov).

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